Examination of Schenck

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July 4th

Collated

Mr. Schenck

Mr. Charles Schenck was sworn
Examined on behalf of
Mr. Tyler.

Has been in the Mint of
New Orleans since the commence=
ment of its operations — He was
engaged in Philadelphia, at=
tends the coining presses, was
here when some alterations
were made to the coining
presses by Mr. Tyler — The al=
terations were in reducing
the ball of the obverse press
& fixing a piece of steel to
the ball for the purpose of
separating the ball from the
socket, the triangles were
also altered by letting two
brass plates in the triangle
for the purpose of stiffening
them, which effect was pro=
duced by the alteration; there
was also a new centre made to
the triangle of the obverse press,
also of the dollar press, thinks
these alterations have greatly
improved the presses. The object
of the piece of steel was to sepa=
rate the ball from the socket to ad=
mit the oil under the ball, the ball rolls

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itself by this operation. Does not think the ball has worn materially since this plan was adopted. This plan, as to oiling, has been in use since June 1838. Has tried the large press which has not this plan as to oiling, it worked very badly. The alterations above referred to have not been abandoned since to his knowledge, knows the old plans have not been returned to - Believes from what Deponent has seen, that Mr. Tyler is a good mechanic, & as far as Deponents information extends should say, Tyler is one of the best in the United States. Thinks him very attentive to his studies more so than any other man would be. Tyler generally comes to his work about 7 A.M. or a little before, breakfasts at 8 & is absent on an average about returns 2 hours till 2 P.M. is absent from 2 P.M. at dinner about an hour returning at 3 generally

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and is generally occupied in his department till dark, sometimes later. In deponents room more might have been done, if more work had been given to Deponent, but Deponent thinks Mr. Tyler has not men enough for his department to keep deponents room supplied with blankets. Considers that Mr. Tyler treats his men well when they deserve it.

Quest. Do you believe from what you know of Mr. Tyler Mr. Denney & Mr. Brown that the public interest would be or would not be promoted by the removal of Mr. Tyler & the substitution of Mr. Denney or Mr. Brown in his stead.

Ans. Thinks so far as he is capable of judging, that the public interest would not be promoted by Mr. Tyler's removal & the substitution of either Mr. Denney or Mr. Brown.

Cr Examination on behalf of Mr. Tyler.

Being asked if Mr.

Wm Bowie

Mr. Wallace

Indy 4th

Brown is a witness whom he would believe upon oath

Ans. He would not believe him on oath when his interests are concerned or where he could gratify his revenge

Being asked what reasons he has for not believing Brown on his oath when his interests are concern=ed

Ans. Deponent does not believe some parts of the testimony which Brown gave here before the Com=missioner, & believes his reputation for truth is not very great in general. — has never known or heard of his, Browns forswearing himself, on other occasions but has known him to tell falsehoods, & moreover knew that he would tell a falsehood from a spirit of revenge or to gratify a friend. Knows this by experience & if wished to state instances he will do so. Knows an instance where he agreed to get a friend, a young man into a situation that was already engaged for another

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and it turned out that the young man did not get the place, Knows nothing of his general reputation for the truth, but from what he has heard from some of the men these men were Jackson & Gallagher, has heard all the men working in the Mill speak about his veracity has never heard these men say he would perjure himself & Deponent himself did not think so previous to their examination. Was on good terms with Brown previous to his discharge has seldom met with him since. Says he knows of no alteration having been made to the Shifting machine — Knows of an alteration having been made to the draw bench — Considers the alteration as having done her good with relation to power but considered it otherwise unnecessary.

The draw bench worked well now as far as deponent knows

Judy 4th.

Examination on behalf of Mr. Bradford

Was all the work done was necessarily done, but is of opinion that some of the work might have been deferred & done by degrees after the Mint had got into operation. All the furnaces had to be built, force pumps set, all the work benches made, a great many tools also, a forge built, & a variety of things done that Deponent does not recollect. Supposes that these things were finished about the last Latter part of May 1838.

Quest. Could not the adjustment of the Machinery & the necessary changes thereof have been done during the time the matter spoken of in your last answer were under consideration.

Ans. It could have been done if there had been more machinists but the machinists were kept all the time busy. Has sometimes had a press of work in the Coining room

July 16th

(Deponent) when the press would get out of order, a supply of planchets was then accumulated — this has not often occurred, considering the application of the machinery. It has occurred frequently in a month — It has sometimes been necessary to take out the dies from their bearing room — a die lasts about 10 days or two weeks when there is not a press of work — a good die will generally strike about 200,000 pieces (means the dime or half dime die). Has never made more than three days, extra time, in a month, to the best of his recollection, has never been allowed, nor received extra pay for extra work where extra work was not done.

Examination on behalf of Mr. Dyer.

The dies now in the dime press have struck more than 200,000 pieces, they are now in tolerable condition.

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I certify this to be a true copy
of the testimony & exhibits & Schedule given
before the Commissioner Thos Slidell Esq.
on the 4th of July 1839

In testimony whereof I have here=
=unto signed my name & affixed my seal
of office on this 7th day of August 1839 at
the City of New Orleans.

Horatio Davis
Notary